

Administration of Joseph R. Biden, Jr., 2023

Statement on Senator Dianne Feinstein's Decision Not To Seek Reelection

February 14, 2023

Senator Dianne Feinstein was elected in 1992, dubbed the "Year of the Woman" in part because of her victory. Often the only woman in the room, she was determined to lift America up, and through her intellect, empathy, character, and drive, to make this country everything it could be.

As chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, I knew I wanted Dianne to serve alongside me, with her proven track record of standing up for people's rights and fighting to make their lives better. She agreed to join the committee, and the Nation was better for it.

Through force of will, she led the fight to get the assault weapons ban passed. Like so many who have been touched by gun violence, that victory was personal for her. She is a passionate defender of civil liberties and a strong voice for national security policies that keep us safe while honoring our values. A lifelong Californian, she has worked tirelessly to protect our environment for future generations.

Over the three decades I've known her, Dianne and her late husband Richard became dear friends to Jill and me. I've served with more U.S. Senators than just about anyone. I can honestly say that Dianne Feinstein is one of the very best. I look forward to continuing to work with her as she serves out her term.

Categories: Statements by the President : Sen. Dianne Feinstein's decision not to seek reelection.

Names: Biden, Jill T.; Feinstein, Dianne.

Subjects: California, U.S. Senator, retirement; Gun control efforts; Senate Judiciary Committee.

DCPD Number: DCPD202300114.